

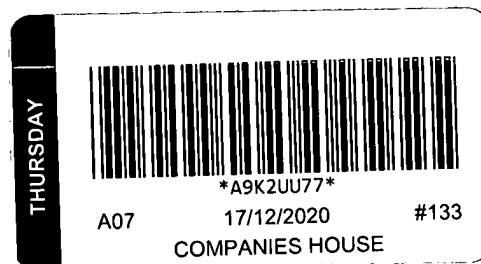
Company Registration No. 08278808 (England and Wales)

**WADE DEACON TRUST**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**



**WADE DEACON  
TRUST**



# WADE DEACON TRUST

## CONTENTS

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|                                                                            | Page    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Reference and administrative details                                       | 1 - 2   |
| Trustees' report                                                           | 3 - 25  |
| Governance statement                                                       | 26 - 29 |
| Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance                          | 30      |
| Statement of trustees' responsibilities                                    | 31      |
| Independent auditor's report on the accounts                               | 32 - 34 |
| Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity                    | 35 - 36 |
| Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account | 37 - 38 |
| Balance sheet                                                              | 39      |
| Statement of cash flows                                                    | 40      |
| Notes to the accounts including accounting policies                        | 41 - 60 |

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## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

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#### **Members**

Mr I Hann  
Mr P Wasley  
Mr D Findon  
Ms P A Wright  
Mr C McLeod  
Ms G Lacy

#### **Trustees**

Mr I Hann  
Mr C McLeod  
Mr J K Woodroffe  
Mr M Dickinson  
Mr N McGee  
Miss C E Marsland  
Mr D Darlington  
Mr A Moss (Resigned 27 August 2020)  
Mr P Fowler  
Ms P Choudhary  
Ms M E Murphy

#### **Senior management team**

|                                                  |                |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| - Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer | Mr G Kelly     |
| - Chief Operations Officer                       | Mr I Kirkham   |
| - Chief Finance Officer                          | Mr S Robertson |
| - Lead Principal Wade Deacon High School         | Mr S Corner    |
| - Lead Principal Primary                         | Ms J Brown     |
| - Principal Hillside High School                 | Mrs A Ryan     |
| - Principal Halewood Academy (to 30 June 2020)   | Mr G Evans     |
| - Principal Halewood Academy (from 1 July 2020)  | Ms J Gallagher |
| - Principal Widnes Academy                       | Mrs K Highcock |
| - Principal Whiston Willis Primary Academy       | Mr I Cooper    |
| - Principal Yew Tree Primary Academy             | Mrs R O'Hanlon |
| - Principal Sylvester Primary Academy            | Mrs R Harrison |

#### **Company secretary**

Mr I Kirkham

#### **Company registration number**

08278808 (England and Wales)

#### **Principal and registered office**

Wade Deacon High School  
Birchfield Road  
Widnes  
England  
WA8 7TD

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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**Independent auditor**

WR Partners  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor  
Drake House  
Gadbrook Park  
Northwich  
Cheshire  
CW9 7RA

**Bankers**

HSBC Bank plc  
Vista  
St Davids Park  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH53DT  
UK

**Solicitors**

Business Services Group  
Hill Dickinson LLP  
No. 1 St Paul's Square  
Liverpool  
L3 9SJ

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

For the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 the trust operated as a Multi Academy Trust. The Trust currently serves the towns of Widnes and Runcorn in the borough of Halton, Bootle in the Borough of Sefton and Huyton, Whiston & Halewood in the Borough of Knowsley.

The Trust as of September 2020 has a pupil capacity of 5,950 (excluding nursery & DSP provision) across its eight schools.

The membership of Wade Deacon Trust as at 31 August 2020 is:

- Wade Deacon High School 11-16 (converted 1 March 2013). The site is located in Halton (Widnes ) on a large new build and refurbished site. Capacity 1,550 (Planned Admission Number 310). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2020 (Yr7-11) is 1,609 students.
- Widnes Academy 3-11 (converted 1 February 2015) Sponsored Academy. The site is located in Halton (Widnes) in a 3 storey Victorian style building. Capacity 210 plus 52 FTE Nursery(Planned Admission Number 30). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2020 (Reception-Y6) is 165 students.
- Hillside High School 11-16 (converted 1 March 2015) Sponsored Academy. The site is located in Sefton (Bootle) and combines mixture of 1930s and 1980s build on one campus. Capacity 970 (Planned Admission Number 194). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2020 (Yr7-11) is 639 students.
- Sylvester Primary Academy 3-11 (converted 1 January 2017) Converter Academy. The site is located in Knowsley (Huyton) made up of series for 1930s to 1960s buildings. Capacity is 210 plus 52 FTE Nursery (Planned Admission Number 30 planned to move to 35 from Sept 2021). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2020 (Reception – Y6) is 228 students.
- Halewood Academy – 11-18 Sponsored Academy. The site is a PFI (2009) located in the Knowsley (Halewood). Capacity is 1,200 (Planned Admission Number 310). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2020 (Yr7-11) is 1,076 students.
- The Grange Academy 3-16 (converted 1 January 2018) Converter Academy. The site is located in Halton (Runcorn) and is a PFI (2013) build. This is an all through school with a capacity of 1,320 plus 52 fte Nursery and 30 place resource base (Planned Admission Number Primary 60, Secondary 180). Number on Role Autumn Term census 2020 (Reception –Y6) is 1,012 students.
- Whiston Willis Primary Academy (converted 1 May 2018) Converter Academy. The site is located in Knowsley (Huyton) made up of series for 1930s to 1960s buildings. Capacity is 280 plus 52 FTE Nursery (Planned Admission Number 40 planned to move to 45 from Sept 2021) Number on roll Autumn Term census 2020 (Reception –Y6) is 316 students.
- Yew Tree Primary Academy (converted 1 September 2018) Converter Academy. The site is located in Knowsley in a new build site and has a Designated Specialist Provision (DSP). Capacity 210, plus 28 DSP. Number on roll Autumn Term census 2020 (Reception –Y6 & DSP) is 248 students.

The Academy holds Teaching School status and engages with a wider strategic alliance with partner schools to further the development of the Teaching School and school-to-school support.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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##### **Structure, governance and management**

###### Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The charitable company is known as Wade Deacon Trust.

The trustees of Wade Deacon Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

The Trustees undertake the strategic review of the Academy Trust and powers are delegated to local Governing Bodies; the levels of which are subject to the needs of each individual school.

###### Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

###### Trustees' indemnities

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 every Governor or other officer or Auditor of the Academy Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy Trust against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy Trust.

Professional Indemnity Insurance is in place to protect Trustees, Governors, and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring on Trust business.

###### Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

Consideration is given to the skills of Trustees and Governors which would enhance the effectiveness of the Trust in line with the Articles of Association.

The appointment of Trustees may be made by the Members passing a resolution as contained within the Articles of Association.

With regards to the appointment of parent and staff Governors, procedures are in place for their nomination, election and appointment.

###### Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

New Trustees are inducted into the workings of the Trust, including details of policies and procedures, together with an appropriate training schedule depending upon their existing area of expertise.

###### Principal activities

The principal objective of the Trust is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to, the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing the Academies, offering a broad and balanced curriculum. In setting the Trust's objectives and planning its activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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##### Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Trust and Academies by the use of financial management information, making strategic decisions about the direction of the Trust and capital expenditure, making senior appointments and approving the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

As at 31st August 2020 the MAT consists of eight Academies and a teaching school.

The Trustees delegate the leadership and management of the Trust to the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operations Officer, Lead Principals and Principals. Each Academy has a Senior Leadership Team (SLT) structure in place to support the delegation of responsibilities.

The level of delegation will be subject to assessment and review of performance and also the capacity of each Academy. A small focused central team supports the operation of the Trust. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT), as appropriate to each Academy, would normally consist of Principal, Vice Principals, Assistant Vice Principals and a Business Manager (or equivalent post holder). These leaders control the Trust and Academies at a senior level, implementing the policies laid down by the Trustees & Local Governing Bodies and reporting back to them. As a group the SLT is subject to relevant delegation being granted and responsibility for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff (excluding the appointment of a Principal).

Management teams will operate at each Academy and are responsible for the day to day operation of the Trust and the Academies. In particular they are responsible for organising the staff (teaching and support), facilities and students.

The Wade Deacon Multi Academy Trust Board of Trustees has an Audit & Compliance Committee to advise the Board on matters relating to the Trust's finance and audit arrangements, systems of internal control, risk management and statutory compliance. The Committee will also advise and aid the Board in ensuring the sound management of the Trust's finances and resources. This will include proper planning, monitoring and probity. The Audit & Compliance Committee is responsible to the Trust Board.

Both the Board of Trustees and the Audit and Compliance group meet regularly throughout the year. Members meet on a termly basis. An appropriate meeting in each academic year being used to hold the Annual General Meeting following the submission of accounts.

Local Governing bodies and committees meet on at least a termly basis and report relevant decisions to the Trust Board. The Board will ratify appropriate decisions.

Roles and responsibilities of Trustees, Governors, and Senior Managers are defined in the relevant Terms of Reference and Academy Scheme of Delegation.

##### Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Academy Trustees (excluding the Chief Executive Officer) are non-salaried and therefore no pay and remuneration scales are applicable.

The Academy Trust continues to refer to School Teachers' Pay & Conditions Document (STPCD) and National Joint Council (NJC) to support relevant grade and pay range allocations.

The setting of salaries (and pay range) for Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Vice Principals is undertaken using the STPCD Leadership Pay Group section guidance.

For those staff employed across the Trust, the principles and grading at both STPCD and NJC are used to establish an appropriate salary range.

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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### Trade union facility time

#### *Relevant union officials*

|                                                                                  |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period | 8    |
| Full-time equivalent employee number                                             | 7.20 |

#### *Percentage of time spent on facility time*

| Percentage of time | Number of employees |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 0%                 | 2                   |
| 1%-50%             | 6                   |
| 51%-99%            | -                   |
| 100%               | -                   |

#### *Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time*

|                                                         |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Total cost of facility time                             | 432        |
| Total pay bill                                          | 23,474,394 |
| Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time | -          |

#### *Paid trade union activities*

|                                                                                             |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours | 7% |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|



## WADE DEACON TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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##### Engagement with employees

Key to the way we work and our success, are our colleagues and partners who collectively have the knowledge, skills and experience to continually improve the offer for our pupils. We work together to solve problems, overcome barriers, to test things out and continually improve.

Our expectation in all of our academies is that our colleagues are highly skilled, that they continue to develop and are as ambitious for themselves as well as our pupils.

Working within a common structure and bound by our vision of 'A Commitment to Excellence', our academies are supported and encouraged to maintain their own distinctive characteristics and to tailor their curriculum so that it meets the needs of their pupils and to best serve their communities. Our principals are responsible for the academy they lead and are accountable for the outcomes their pupils achieve. Being part of a partnership of academies brings with it challenge and support as well as opportunities to share ideas, share best practice and to share resources where this adds value.

One of Wade Deacon Trust's key objectives is to be a great employer and we are fully committed to our employee's continued professional development. The Trust offers strong CPD opportunities for all of our employees; we believe this is an essential part of our role as an employer and as educators.

With a range of exciting opportunities for aspiring teachers and educational leaders, Wade Deacon Trust provides the very best support and training to assist staff in achieving their goals.

We are passionate about providing tailored support from the journey to all levels of educational development.

We offer a wide range of services from collaborative working through to training and support for school improvement and governance with the three key priorities focusing on:

- Initial Teacher Training
- Continuing Professional & Leadership Development
- School-to-School Support

At Wade Deacon Trust we know that having employees who are happy and enthusiastic is an extremely important part of creating successful schools that provide the first-class education that our students deserve. Therefore, we aim to provide a working environment that keeps our employees satisfied in their jobs.

The Wade Deacon Trust employs a diverse range of people in a variety of professions and sectors, who all work together to create wonderful community. Our Trust is about so much more than just teaching, and we strive to give opportunities to as many people, in as many fields, as possible.

Our Trust ensure the best possible facilities and provisions to keep our employees engaged and working hard for the benefit of our students. We appreciate the work of each and every person within Wade Deacon Trust, and recognise that everyone plays an equally valuable part in ensuring that The Wade Deacon Trust runs smoothly all year round for our students.

We have a number of options and benefits available for our employees that come as part of the employment package with Wade Deacon Trust. These include competitive salary and benefits and career progression opportunities. We are always evaluating the pay and benefits we offer our employees and taking account of the changing environment around us to ensure that we continue to be a first-choice employer for prospective and existing staff. We ensure that employees are paid fairly and well. To compliment this, we provide opportunities for salary progression and we take this opportunity very seriously. We know that our employees work hard and we do the best that we can to recognise, celebrate and reward hard work, dedication to our students and achievement.

At Wade Deacon Trust, career progression is very important and we encourage all our employees to continually enhance their skills, knowledge and experience. We provide a range of opportunities to develop and achieve recognised qualifications to ensure that we keep the Trust, and everyone in it, growing together. Other benefits of working with us include access to a generous pension scheme.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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##### Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the academy trust

Wade Deacon Trust treats all of the suppliers it engages in business with as partners in realising the Trust's principles and aims to work together with them to adapt to both changing times and emerging demands from society. This is precisely why the entire Trust also works hard to ensure the practice of fair transactions and competition amongst its suppliers.

Wade Deacon Trusts engages with a large number of suppliers across the Academies. We always look to be honest with our suppliers and aim to maintain strong dialogue with all of our suppliers. Strong buyer-supplier relationships are built on collaboration and as a Trust we look as a Trust to be pro-active with our suppliers.

As a Trust, whilst following the clear guidelines set out by the Academies Financial Handbook with regards to obtaining value for money, we encourage our Academies to seek local suppliers where practical. Our Academies are an integral part of their communities and by adopting a policy of looking to support local businesses if possible we can provide support to those communities and benefit the stakeholders to the academies.

We report every six months on the prompt payment of suppliers (in line with government requirements) and work towards improving our payment terms and conditions wherever possible.

The main customers who use the Trust are based around the use of our facilities across the academies. During the last 18 months we have undertaken a policy across the Trust of prioritising the use of the facilities for local users as well as looking to prioritise use which aligns with our strategic goals. Examples of this include engaging with local youth sports teams to utilise 3-G sports facilities across our sites as well as making resources available for local groups to use.

This year has been particularly challenging with the impact of the pandemic in respect of our relationships with our customers. Due to restrictions set by the government as part of the pandemic response we have been unable to provide the facilities for a time during the year. We remain in contact with the organisations who use our facilities with a view to resuming these relationships when circumstances allow.

##### Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The transactions with respect to related parties and other connected charities and organisations have been disclosed with notes 10 and 23 to these financial statements.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### Objects and aims

The main objectives of the Trust are summarised below:

- To facilitate a smooth transition to Academy status
- To raise the standard of educational achievements of all pupils in the Trust's academies
- To ensure that every child enjoys the same high quality education in terms of resourcing, teaching and learning
- To improve the effectiveness of the Academies by keeping the curriculum and organisational structures under continual review
- To comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements
- To provide value for money for the funds expended
- To conduct the Trust and Academy business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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##### Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trusts' main strategy is to develop and maintain a culture of excellence across our organisation that continues to provide opportunities for our students.

Wade Deacon High School converted to 'Academy' status in March 2013 and founded the Wade Deacon Trust. This status was adopted because of our quest to continually improve the quality of learning and teaching for the benefit of all students. In addition, all the Trustees of the Trust are committed to training and the life-long learning of all our members of staff and the community. The Trust has now expanded to eight Academies and retains its Teaching School Status.

Students and staff work side-by-side with the latest technological developments to enhance further the quality of our teaching and learning. We help students to develop real life solutions to real life problems, using industry standard equipment to achieve their goals.

As a major contributor to the concept of lifelong learning, we are a Trust that makes a difference within our school Academy communities. We achieve this by engaging in collaborative projects with our community partners and sharing our resources with them.

Throughout all the Trust's Academies, students are encouraged to take pride in themselves, their actions and their achievements. We have high expectations of students' academic work, the manner in which they conduct themselves around their Academy campus and their presence in the local community beyond. An orderly and disciplined environment is a key feature of our work in the Trust. The success of this is based on enhancing and maintaining excellent standards of self-discipline, school uniform and the promotion of a sense of pride and belonging to the Trust and its Academies.

High levels of attendance are expected throughout each year group so that everyone can take full advantage of the range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities available. Levels of attainment are most easily raised when students attend all lessons, allowing continuity of the teaching and learning environment.

Regular extended learning is an integral part of the learning culture of the school. Tasks set are intended to broaden and develop an individual's scope for independent learning as well as reinforcing work completed during the school day.

In each of our academies, we are committed to providing many rich experiences and ensuring that every pupil has the opportunity to be and achieve their best. Our ethos is central to that provision and all we do. We are committed to a fully inclusive model of education where we will do our best at all times to make sure no pupil gets left behind.

All of our academies work hard to help our pupils develop in the broadest sense as well as having expectations that all pupils achieve academic success. Our expectations are that the development of healthy lives and relationships, equalities, character and resilience permeate through all aspects of life and the culture in each of our academies.

##### The impact of COVID-19 during the financial year to 31 August 2020

Following the nationwide closure of Schools in March to all but students of key workers the Trust academies provided robust alternative arrangements where practical. In our primaries we extended the use of our DB Primary virtual learning programme so that all parents could keep in regular contact with class teachers and continue to ensure that our blended learning offer is effective and appropriate for all pupils.

In our secondaries Teaching, Learning and Assessment has continued to develop despite schools shutting down due to dedication and commitment of our staff. Each School has developed platforms to ensure consistency of learning for students who are not able to attend School whether that due to isolation or lockdown restrictions.

During the COVID-19 pandemic ICT has played a crucial role in enabling schools to offer alternative ways to support teaching and learning and perform the necessary back office functions required when running a school or Trust. Since the initial lockdown in March 2020 schools have relied upon Office 365 to communicate with colleagues and plan the necessary arrangements. It has given schools and the Trust the flexibility it needed to allow staff to work in different ways. A grant from the DfE was available for schools to claim for commissioning a platform such as Office 365 or Google G-Suite but with a platform already in place we were not eligible to claim.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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In both phases of the DfE scheme 'Get help with technology' the schools within the Trust have received devices to support teaching and learning for disadvantaged pupils. In June 2020 we received 116 devices for pupils in Year 10 who are disadvantaged and since September 2020, a further 760 devices for pupils in years 3-11 who are disadvantaged have been received.

The Trust has managed to maintain a strong financial position through prudence and striving for value for money across previous years. The reserves we have in place give us confidence that we are in a suitable financial position to deal with the additional costs which have been incurred since the full re-opening of the Academies in September 2020.

#### Trust Development

The current Trust Board of Trustees are from a diverse range of backgrounds and each one has a different type of expertise to offer; however they all have one thing in common and that is a commitment to an exceptional education, where tradition is respected and innovation is encouraged. The vision is for every school in the Trust to be an outstanding school where every child receives an exceptional education.

As the Trust develops and grows, the Trustees will have regard for the operational processes of the schools within the Trust, and will make adjustments to both the structure and membership of the relevant bodies in order to ensure that the Trust can manage the schools in accordance within the required Ofsted framework and ensure that the core principles are sustained.

The Trust holds Teaching School status. Teaching schools are outstanding schools that work with others to provide high-quality training and development to new and experienced school staff. They form a central role in raising standards by developing a self-improving and sustainable school-led system.

The Trust through its Innovation Enterprise Alliance undertakes a cross-phase and cross-regional alliance, supported by a number of strategic partners, who lead on, or contribute to, aspects of the provision.

The Trust believes in giving every student the opportunity to develop his or her talents to the full and expects every student to work very hard in order to achieve this. The Trust is committed to an exceptional education where tradition is respected and innovation is encouraged. The Academy is committed to training and the life-long learning of all our members of staff and the community. Students and staff work side-by-side with the latest technological developments to further enhance the quality of our teaching and learning.

Students are helped to develop real life solutions to real life problems, using industry standard equipment to achieve their goals. As a major contributor to the concept of lifelong learning, all Trust schools make a difference within their communities. We achieve this by engaging in collaborative projects with our community partners and sharing our resources with them.

Throughout school, students are encouraged to take pride in themselves, their actions and their achievements. We have high expectations of students' academic work and the manner in which they conduct themselves around the school campus and in the community beyond. An orderly and disciplined environment is a key feature of work in our schools.

The success of the school is based on promoting and maintaining excellent standards of self-discipline and school uniform, along with the promotion of a sense of pride and belonging to the school.

High levels of attendance are expected throughout each year in school, so that everyone can take full advantage of the range of curricular and extracurricular opportunities available.

The success we achieve in the classroom is enhanced by a wide range of enrichment courses which are made available to all students. Everyone is encouraged to use part of their recreation time for participation in one or more of these opportunities. Clubs and societies, clinics and extra classes are all designed to broaden the experiences of the school's young people outside of their compulsory curriculum diet.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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##### Public benefit

The principal objective of the Trust is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing the Academies, offering a broad and balanced curriculum. In setting the Trust's objectives and planning its activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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#### **Strategic report**

##### **Achievements and performance**

##### **Promoting the success of the Trust**

The following paragraph section of this report provides detailed reports specific to all of the constituent parts of the Trust outlining their individual successes and achievements within the 12 months to 31 August 2020.

The Chief Executive Officer is committed to providing strategic leadership in line with the culture and values of the Trust and its member schools. The Chief Executive Officer is also a Lead Ofsted Inspector for Schools and Academies.

There is a clear separation and accountability between the role of Members, Trustees and Local Governing Bodies. Trustees continue to provide support to those schools and Local Governing Bodies who require support and guidance.

The central operations team is led by qualified professionals including a School Business Leader, qualified accountant and CIPD professional. This provides for high levels of accountability for strategic leadership and specialist knowledge across defined areas of the Trust and a commitment to a self-improving Trust through system leadership.

The Academy Improvement Strategy is rooted in an ethos that creates the culture, attitude and aspiration necessary to secure successful outcomes for young people and prepare them effectively for life in modern Britain. Support is provided in proportion to the level of need within each Academy as determined through the school's own self-evaluation judgements and the Trust's monitoring.

The Trust has undertaken a review of its position over the academic year to ensure that it provides a sustainable model for the future. This has resulted in a review of staffing at secondary schools and initial steps to look for further efficient use of resources in the Primary sector. There have been a number of areas of success and achievement at each school.

##### Wade Deacon High School

Wade Deacon High School continues to deliver excellent provision throughout the school that leads to outstanding achievement for students. The current Progress 8 figure in 2020 was based on Centre Assessed Grades which indicated another year of improvements. Although the data cannot be compared to previous years it does reflect the continued improvements at the school.

The Overall P8 score for the school was 0.51 in 2020 (previously +0.23 in 2019), which is significantly above the national average. Improvements can be seen across the school in terms of outcomes but most noticeable is the improvement of progress relating to pupils premium students. Progress has moved from -0.40 to 0.05. Attainment continues to be strong across the full curriculum. 82% of students achieved a grade 9 – 4 in maths and English, up from 76% in 2019, and 63% achieved a grade 9 – 5, up from 58% in 2019. This remains significantly above the national averages. The number of students who are NEET remains very low, with only 2% of students not staying on in Education, Employment or Training. Despite the obvious challenges that COVID has presented, attendance remains excellent. The attendance data for the Autumn term in 2019 was up from the year before at 97.3%; this is significantly better than the local average and the national average.

The quality of our curriculum continues to be a unique feature of our school and has been further developed in the last year. Students benefit from a diverse range of subjects and extra-curricular activities and we have been able to develop our personal development curriculum even further. Our website reflects many of our student's achievements and the quality of provision we are proud to offer.

During the last year, the school community has continued to celebrate many achievements, most recently we have celebrated our Year 10 U16 Football team becoming national champions and our English faculty being nominated as TES English faculty of the year. The school remains oversubscribed with over 380 first place choices (the PAN is 315) for September 2021. This is expected to grow to over 400 in the next few weeks and is an increase on last year where we had 356 first place choices at the same time.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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Considering the many challenges that the COVID crisis has presented, the school continues to go from strength to strength. Teaching, Learning and Assessment has continued to develop despite schools shutting down due to dedication and commitment of our staff. Our CPD programme provides expert support and coaching for all staff. This year we have further developed the leadership programmes to ensure our leaders continue to grow and develop. Remote Teaching is fully embedded as a new way of working whilst we manage the COVID crisis and although this was new for many people, we have been able to secure strong and consistent provision for students in a short space of time. As a school community, and as a Trust, we have grown stronger and more connected, despite the obvious challenges.

##### Halewood Academy

This year has been a strong one for Halewood Academy. Progress 8 has improved to that of centre assessed grades. As a centre we feel we presented a 'true-to-life' picture of what we feel students would have achieved in their examinations this year. In 2019 P8 was -0.85 with a pleasing -0.40 this year. Attainment 8 for 2019 was 35.81 and this year is 42.7.

Overall, the percentage of 9-4 grades from CAGs to actual examination results is inline. It is the stronger passes where there has been an increase from CAGs.

No subjects were marked down. There has been an increase in the stronger passes in the following subjects; separate sciences/combined science, history, geography, art, computer science, maths, pe, English language and literature.

Results from 2019 show improvement in all subject areas. The biggest jump has been in; business, chemistry, computer science, geography and Spanish. Childcare has achieved some excellent results 100% A-C, with 88.2% achieving A\*-B.

Attendance is consistently at 91.3%. We have had lots of students having to self-isolate due to external factors. We have had more positive cases over the past couple of weeks.

We have managed to offer a full curriculum offer. KS3 classes take place within Zones, as do KS4 theory-based subjects. Due to the tight cleaning regime, where option subjects require specialist rooms, we are still able to utilise these.

##### Hillside High School

The percentage of pupils achieving grade 4+ in English and Maths combined was 50%, with 28% of pupils achieved 5+ in English and Maths combined. 29% of pupils achieved the very challenging English Baccalaureate qualification. Overall progress made by this cohort was in line with the national average (0.00). Maintaining the improvements made in progress remains a key priority

A third of Hillside pupils achieved at least one of the top grades across their subjects, with 76 grade 9s and 8s achieved overall.

Across the curriculum there were some excellent results. In the separate sciences, over 93% of pupils achieved 9-4 grades. Performance in English and Maths continues to improve and results at 9-4 in Art, Business Studies, Computer Science, Media, Dance, Physical Education and Retail Business all exceeded 80% - representing excellence across the curriculum.

Attendance for the academic year 2019-2020 up until the national lockdown in March was 93.5%, marking a 1.5% improvement on last year. This remains a key priority for improvement.

In the academic year 2019 - 20 the school has received a significant investment in its buildings and learning environment. The front of the building is in the process of being completely refurbished and re-landscaped and many classrooms and laboratories will be modernised in a rolling programme.

##### Sylvester Primary Academy

The Ofsted inspection of October 2019, confirmed that 'Sylvester Primary Academy continues to be a good school'

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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Sylvester Primary Academy had a successful year in 2019 - 20, and although national tests did not take place, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, pupil outcomes in 2020 were predicted to be positive across the board. Teacher assessments prior to the lockdown predicted that the performance of Sylvester pupils would have been at least in line with their national peers in EYFS, phonics, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, demonstrating exceptionally good progress from extremely low starting points.

Over the past few years, attendance at Sylvester has seen a significant improvement and this trend continued up until February 2020.

'Leaders have created a well-designed curriculum. This helps pupils achieve well in a range of subjects, including reading, writing and mathematics' – Ofsted October 2019. A range of high quality CPD has been provided, particularly for middle leaders, to increase the impact of subject coordination on pupil progress across the school. Our post-lockdown recovery curriculum has ensured that gaps in pupils learning are being addressed, through "catch-up" provision.

2019-20 saw the continuation of the review of behaviour management systems across the school and we implemented a range of new strategies, including Class Dojo and a rewards shop. Ofsted noted that 'Pupils behave well.' During lockdown, we extended the use of Class Dojo so that all parents could keep in regular contact with class teachers.

As a school, we have continued to focus on staff and pupil wellbeing, both prior to, during and after the period of lockdown and we are currently working towards the nationally accredited Wellbeing Award for Schools (WAS).

'The arrangements for safeguarding are effective' – Ofsted October 2019. Throughout 2019-20, we worked with a range of agencies to support vulnerable pupils. During the lockdown period, vulnerable pupils attended school, alongside key workers to ensure that their needs were being met and families were being supported.

#### Widnes Academy

Widnes Academy has continued to grow in strength and our community ethos and strong family connections have helped us to face this difficult year. Our last Ofsted Inspection was in January 2018 and highlighted the 'strong culture of safeguarding' of which the school is proud. We maintain close links both with our families and a range of external agencies to provide support and advice as well as maintaining high standards.

Widnes Academy had a good year in 2019 - 20, and our predicted outcomes would have built on the previous year's good performance.

Over the past few years, attendance at Widnes Academy has been a focus and we have begun to see improvements in this area prior to lockdown.

Our Reception numbers have continued to grow with admission for September 2020 up to 25, a testament to the good provision we offer and our local links.

We remain committed to providing many extra-curricular activities and experiences for our children which last year included residential visits for our Y2, Y5 and Y6 pupils. We have continued our involvement with Halton Primary Arts Network and have now achieved success in becoming an Arts Award Centre. Our Y4 and Y5 pupils began their Arts Award journey which was unfortunately curtailed due to the lockdown – it is hoped that this process will restart again next year.

Our focus on developing and extending our curriculum offer has continued with a wide range of staff CPD and working groups which has seen clear progression and sequencing for all subjects. Our post-lockdown recovery curriculum has ensured that gaps in pupils learning are being addressed, through "catch-up" provision.

During lockdown, we extended the use of our DB Primary virtual learning programme so that all parents could keep in regular contact with class teachers and continue to ensure that our blended learning offer is effective and appropriate for all pupils.



## WADE DEACON TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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##### Key performance indicators

##### Whiston Willis

Whiston Willis has continued its journey of improvement throughout 2019-2020 and although national tests did not take place, internal assessment data indicate that results in EYFS and both KS1 and KS2 would have maintained and in some cases bettered standards of previous years in terms of both attainment and progress. Y1 phonic screening results were on track to improve following the successful introduction and implementation of Read Write Inc Phonics.

Our continued work as a 'UNICEF Rights Respecting School' resulted in our silver accreditation in January 2020. This underpins our values and ethos and we will continue to work towards gold accreditation over the next two years.

Further development of our curriculum offer has continued to be a priority and standards in core subjects remain high. We have been asked to continue as a 'Flagship School' for the Literacy Tree – celebrating the success we have achieved through our work with them. A focus across the year has been to enhance our wider curriculum offer with our 'developing subjects' being art, computing and geography during 2019-2020. This was successful and prior to lockdown standards of learning in these subjects had improved further.

To further support our improvement, we continued to develop additional external collaboration. We engaged fully with other Knowsley Schools to complete an NAHT Aspire led peer review process which was a successful experience and highlighted many areas of strength within our school. It also reaffirmed our understanding of how we can improve further. In addition, we have strengthened our links with Charles Dickens Primary School in London for curriculum and leadership support, North West Maths Hub 3 and St John Vianney English Hub.

A number of staff have undertaken external leadership programmes including SENCO award, NPQSL and NPQML which has resulted in excellent personal growth for them as leaders and improved performance in our school.

During lockdown, staff worked tirelessly to ensure the welfare of all pupils was a priority through regular contact both onsite and via telephone in addition to providing good quality remote learning for all pupils. Staff were also fully engaged in personal CPD and completed work to further develop our curriculum offer in response to the pandemic.

Post lockdown, our focus on catch up and recovery is well planned but will be responsive to needs identified on the return of all children. Paramount importance will be placed on the wellbeing of all stakeholders and this will support our work towards the nationally accredited Wellbeing Award for Schools.

##### The Grange Academy

The Grange Academy continues to improve and despite the challenges of the global pandemic, the school responded quickly to ensure that staff, students, families and the local community were well supported through the lockdown period.

Attendance of vulnerable students was strong during lockdown with the majority of students attending at some point. Robust safeguarding plans were in place for these students who did not attend. Due to the significant numbers of disadvantaged students at the school ensuring we not only provided high quality work, but also food parcels and hampers, was a large portion of work undertaken.

Additional to this over the summer break, through a successful Holiday Activity Fund grant, we were able to provide 5 weeks of provision for a large number of students through face-to-face activities, weekly food hampers and online health and wellbeing resource. Across the 5 weeks, over 3800 meals were given to our students and parents/carers, along with 11 different recipe cards, allowing them to make cost effective, nutritious meals at home. Our posts and online content throughout the programme accrued over 10,000 hits across all social media platforms. Students in Year 5 & 10 were able to attend face-to-face sessions within school helping them to prepare for the year ahead. Students in school commented on how engaging the sessions were and how they had enjoyed seeing peers and having the opportunity to return to school. We also received some excellent feedback from parents/carers regarding the food hampers and we know this is something that was valued by our school community.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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Support for staff included CPD to complete at home and training for secondary staff on the use of Microsoft Teams. Prior to the summer holidays, all secondary staff and students were able to come into school and be trained on Microsoft Teams and remote learning was in place for all secondary students.

Prior to the national lockdown behaviour and attendance continued to improve and internal data tracking in both phases indicated a further improvement in outcomes for students. Following the Year 11 exam results and using Centre Assessed Grades the Progress 8 score for indicated another significant improvement to -0.29. This is a further improvement of 0.68 following the improvement of 0.51 in the previous year. Each Progress 8 pool performed better with the largest increase in the open pool; largely due to many students having already entered exams prior to lockdown and performing well. These included Hospitality and Catering, Creative I Media, Music and Sports Studies.

The numbers on roll continue to improve due to the growing reputation of the school locally. The market share in both the primary and secondary phase increased; however, due to local low numbers this didn't see a high intake in either reception or Year 7. However, the overall numbers on roll have surpassed 1000 which has not be the case for many years.

Our commitment to being an inclusive school continues and alongside our own Resource Bases in KS1, KS3 and KS3/4 Brookfields special school has two satellite provisions based with The Grange Academy 'Brookfields @ The Grange' for 9 students (Foxes) which opened in September 2019. The second satellite provision started in September 2020 (Bumblebees) for 9 students following the successful pilot in 2019-20.

Our extra-curricular and enrichment activities continues to develop further and students benefited from a diverse range of subjects and extra-curricular activities. We have a strong performing arts department and make the most of specialisms in the secondary phase to support the foundation subjects in the primary phase. We continue to develop links with parents and the local community, via a range of planned activities for example our Christmas Fayre, Easter Bingo, Careers and Enrichment Fayres, links with the local residential home and many opportunities for parents and carers to meet staff.

#### **Yew Tree Primary Academy**

During what has been a unique year both nationally and locally, we have continued to provide strong pastoral support and educational delivery throughout the pandemic. School remained open throughout the national lockdown- providing access to PODs for our vulnerable pupils. We worked alongside officers within the LA and Children's Social care (CSC) teams to identify our 'most vulnerable' families. Places were then allocated in classroom PODs, implemented a rota for calls from members of the SLT team on a daily or weekly basis, analysed absence and concerns raised, and continued with safeguarding procedures through home visits and referrals to the LA safeguarding teams if and when appropriate. Alongside the local and national school meals voucher schemes, with the support of Magic Breakfast, Everton in the Community and Torrington Road Community Association, we were able to provide breakfast, packed lunches and cooked meals for those families in greatest need as well as ad hoc support for other families as and when it was needed. This involved socially distanced collection by families at school as well as a delivery service provided by senior staff. Staff and Pupil wellbeing has been a key priority throughout the year, with our Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) project focusing on 'Developing a Mentally Healthy School'.

The academic year 2019-20, has involved significant work in reviewing the curriculum at Yew Tree alongside our core vision and values: at Yew Tree we believe that children can achieve personal excellence through the teaching and modelling of our core values of determination, resilience, empowerment, adventure, motivation, being beautifully behaved, inclusive and generous, which drive all aspects of school life. We provide learners with their own learning toolkit through our vision to DREAM BIG for Excellence for All.

Our curriculum has the National Curriculum at its core, takes into account current research and focuses on the development of reading, oracy, and a rich bank of vocabulary to open doors. This ensures learners have the cultural capital to confidently and competently take their place in society: developing critical thinking and the ability to express their own thoughts, feelings and ideas.

It is designed to ensure all learners are confident and resilient life-long learners. Ensuring each child continually practises taking risks; learning from mistakes and persevering towards their most ambitious goals with the qualities of mind empowering them to face any challenge. Children achieving whatever they put their mind to is at the heart of their learning journey at our school and beyond.

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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We have successfully developed a text led approach to our curriculum, through further development of the Literacy Tree Curriculum and establishing strong links with progressive knowledge and skills across the wider curriculum.

Within our Designated Specialist Provision (DSP), the curriculum approach is entitled CAP and simply means Curriculum around the Pupil. There are five key elements to the CAP approach, the use of National Curriculum and B squared (based on engagement scales) to support planning and assessment, Life Skills, Emotional Literacy, Sensory Diet and Total Communication. The weighting of each of these will be based on individual needs (linked to Education Health care Plans, EHCPs; Personal Provision Plans, PPP's and Listen Respond Teach documentation) and annual changes to the needs of the cohort.

We have developed oracy practice throughout the school through participation in the Knowsley Voice 21 project: providing opportunities to enable all children, regardless of background, to have access to a high quality oracy education, enabling them to develop the communication skills and confidence needed to thrive in the 21st Century. Developing the capacity to communicate clearly, the ability to articulate thoughts and ideas eloquently and the confidence to speak in a wide range of contexts, which are fundamental to success in school and life.

#### Teaching School

In relation to our School Direct ITT programme all 20 teacher trainees successfully completed the programme in July 2020; 4 were employed into teaching positions within the Trust.

Recruitment for academic year 2020-21 has been the most successful year enjoyed by the Teaching School to date, despite the impact of Coronavirus. Thirty ATs were recruited across the Trust and external partners.

The Teaching School has developed, marketed and delivered a comprehensive CPD programme for primary and secondary colleagues during 2019-20. 109 Colleagues had accessed CPD training, which is lower than 2018-19 due to the impact of the COVID situation. The Teaching School continues to promote training and development opportunities, including

- NPQ programmes,
- DfE initiatives,
- free online events

This year the Teaching School was invited, by three out of the four licensed providers, to be part of the Early Career Framework extended pilot for 2020-21. Ambition Institute was the chosen provider and the programme commenced in September 2020, with 5 WDT schools involved with 14 mentors, 5 Leads and 16 Early Career Teachers being enrolled on the programme.

The Teaching School is applying to become a Teaching School Hub in conjunction with the Rainbow Primary Trust to lead a Hub in Knowsley, Sefton and St. Helens. Our joint bid was submitted ahead of the deadline of 31st October 2020, with outcomes due January 2021. If successful, this will ensure the Teaching School Hub role for Wade Deacon Trust for the next 3 years however even if this bid is unsuccessful the Teaching School will still have a key role in the Halton hub supporting CPD, ITT and ECF, NPQ programmes.

The Teaching School has a current cohort of 26 Specialist Leaders of Education across a range of specialisms and phases, 2 Local Leaders of Educations and 7 Pupil Premium Reviewers.

Deployment opportunities have been limited since early 2020 as schools experienced reduced staffing levels due to COVID-19.

The Teaching School will coordinate the roll out of Early Career Framework pilot. Management of the Teaching School Transition to the new Hub landscape will form a large part of work in the spring and summer terms.

Our highly renowned Trust Director of the Teaching School Jen Murphy, retains her role as Regional Lead for the Liverpool City Region and Warrington area, supporting Teaching School Council work and DfE policy initiatives.

**WADE DEACON TRUST****TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020****Key Performance Indicators****Overall performance at the end of KS4 in 2020**

| <b>Academy &amp; Number of Pupils at end of KS4</b> | <b>Progress 8 Score</b> | <b>Attainment 8 Score</b> | <b>Grade 4 or above in English and Maths</b> | <b>Entering EBacc</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Halewood Academy (164)</b>                       | -0.42                   | 42.37                     | 57%                                          | 9%                    |
| <b>Hillside High School (141)</b>                   | -0.02                   | 42.89                     | 50%                                          | 40%                   |
| <b>Grange Academy (103)</b>                         | -0.32                   | 42.06                     | 45%                                          | 36%                   |
| <b>Wade Deacon High School (308)</b>                | +0.58                   | 54.90                     | 82%                                          | 48%                   |

**Primary School Performance in 2020**

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic there were no national results or teacher graded performance reports published at the end of the academic year to 31 August 2020. The following is the data collated at the end of the Spring Term:

|                                  | <b>Y2 RWM Comb</b> | <b>Y6 RWM Comb</b> |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Sylvester Primary Academy</b> | 54%                | 62%                |
| <b>The Grange</b>                | 47%                | 64%                |
| <b>Whiston Willis Primary</b>    | 63%                | 72%                |
| <b>Widnes Academy</b>            | 68%                | 77%                |
| <b>Yew Tree Primary</b>          | 44%                | 43%                |

**2019-2020 Attendance**

|                                       | <b>Attendance</b> | <b>Authorised Absence</b> | <b>Un-authorised Absence</b> | <b>Persistent Absence</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Halewood Academy</b>               | 94.1%             | 3.6%                      | 2.3%                         | 14.2%                     |
| <b>Hillside High School</b>           | 93.5 %            | 3.29%                     | 3.26%                        | 17.1%                     |
| <b>Sylvester Primary Academy</b>      | 93.6%             | 4.6%                      | 1.7%                         | 21.7%                     |
| <b>The Grange Academy</b>             | 94.2%             | 3.6%                      | 2.2%                         | 15.8%                     |
| <b>Wade Deacon High School</b>        | 95.5%             | 3.1%                      | 1.4%                         | 10.0%                     |
| <b>Whiston Willis Primary Academy</b> | 95.3%             | 3.4%                      | 1.3%                         | 15.7%                     |
| <b>Widnes Academy</b>                 | 93.9%             | 3.9%                      | 2.1%                         | 21.4%                     |
| <b>Yew Tree Primary Academy</b>       | 94.8%             | 3.1%                      | 2.1%                         | 15.2%                     |

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

### Pupil Numbers at October 2020 census

| Year Group    | HWA  | HHS | SPA | TGA  | WDHS | WWPA | WA  | YTPA | Year Totals |
|---------------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|------|-------------|
| N1            |      |     | 2   | 2    |      | 0    | 5   | 2    | 11          |
| N2            |      |     | 14  | 30   |      | 24   | 7   | 16   | 91          |
| R             |      |     | 36  | 46   |      | 45   | 25  | 30   | 182         |
| 1             |      |     | 33  | 55   |      | 45   | 16  | 31   | 180         |
| 2             |      |     | 30  | 40   |      | 43   | 29  | 35   | 177         |
| 3             |      |     | 29  | 59   |      | 42   | 20  | 35   | 185         |
| 4             |      |     | 35  | 58   |      | 40   | 20  | 35   | 188         |
| 5             |      |     | 22  | 60   |      | 37   | 18  | 32   | 169         |
| 6             |      |     | 27  | 61   |      | 40   | 25  | 32   | 185         |
| 7             | 237  | 124 |     | 110  | 331  |      |     |      | 802         |
| 8             | 231  | 127 |     | 132  | 312  |      |     |      | 802         |
| 9             | 211  | 138 |     | 114  | 320  |      |     |      | 783         |
| 10            | 222  | 134 |     | 121  | 335  |      |     |      | 812         |
| 11            | 175  | 116 |     | 124  | 311  |      |     |      | 726         |
| School Totals | 1076 | 639 | 228 | 1012 | 1609 | 316  | 165 | 248  | 5293        |

Numbers on roll - single registration, dual registration, and subsidiary registration

### Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

The Trust is confident that the financial position reported within the financial statements to 31 August 2020 and the projections made within the Trusts 3 year financial budget projections give the Trust the financial scope to be able to respond to the challenges which the whole education sector will face as a result of the pandemic.

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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##### **Financial review**

The majority of the Trust and Academy income is obtained from the Education and Skill Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA in the period ended 31st August 2020 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust also received grants from the ESFA and other organisations. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the restricted general fund and fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the period ended 31 August 2020, total expenditure (excluding depreciation and actuarial pension adjustments) of £32,840,530 (2019: £32,535,620) was covered by recurrent grant income from the ESFA together with other incoming resources which totalled £34,232,502 (2019: £33,040,167.) After transfers to capital funds of £164,949 (2019: £113,920), there is a net revenue surplus for the year of £1,237,610 (2019: £411,609). Total funds carried forward amount to £41,348,930 (2019: £42,531,667) which include revenue funds of £3,184,060 (2019: £1,946,450). This is in line with the Trust's strategy to build and maintain adequate reserves.

##### Reserves policy

The Trustees and Governors review the level of reserves on an annual basis. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of the reserves. The Trusts current level of revenue reserves (total reserves less the amounts held in fixed asset reserve and the pension fund reserve) is £3,184,060 (2019: £1,946,450).

The Trustees have decided wherever possible to adopt a prudent approach to reserves and aim to build a group reserve of designated funds to safeguard against unforeseen circumstances, capital improvements or developments and other emergencies. This is sound commercial practice designed to safeguard the quality of education received at the academies within the Trust. It must be noted that the school funding system is undergoing a period of austerity and a significant national funding formula change process and a number of large capital schemes have been undertaken.

In addition, the net liability due to the Trusts participation in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) amounts to £19,052,000 (2019: £17,980,000). Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of Academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013. This guarantee provides comfort to the Trustees in the unlikely event of an Academy closure.

The free reserves of the Trust are £1,082,075 (2019: £545,497).

##### Utilisation of the surplus funds

The Trust has supplemented an element of its surplus to support projects using the schools' capital funding allocation.

##### Investment policy

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the Trustees can deposit or invest funds not immediately required. It has been decided that cash balances are to be safeguarded by investing them in interest bearing current and deposit accounts with HSBC, a recognised sound commercial bank.

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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##### Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks to the Trust are documented and managed using a risk management policy and a risk register which is regularly reviewed. The main risks are seen as the loss of reputation through failing standards at the Academies, falling student numbers, failure to safeguard our students, national budget constraints to all schools and failure on high profile school-to-school support commissions. Key controls in place to mitigate these risks are:

- An organisational structure with clearly defined roles, responsibilities and authorisation levels,
- Documented terms of reference for the committees and sub-committees of the Trust,
- Financial planning, budgeting and regular management reporting highlighting key areas of financial risk,
- Formal written and published policies for employees,
- Vetting procedures as required by legislation for the protection of the vulnerable, and
- Robust due diligence procedures in place for new contracts and commissions.

##### Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The main financial risks are mitigated through the employment of sound financial management and internal control processes. Balanced budgets are set for each of the Academies within the Trust and limited budgets are further delegated to departments and faculties. Actual performance against agreed budgets is closely monitored by the Trust's central finance team and via regular (termly) meetings of the finance committee of each LGB. Bank and cash reconciliations are carried out routinely and signed by the authorised officers of the Trust's central finance team. All orders and payments are signed off by the finance team with appropriate segregation of duties in place. An exercise to ensure fixed asset registers are in place is ongoing and there are processes in place for the acquisition, adaptation and disposal of assets. Payroll is outsourced and checked by more than one individual each month. The appropriateness and integrity of internal controls is assessed and reported to the Trustees by the responsible officer and external auditors.

The security of data is administered by an in-house team of IT professionals. Remaining risks are mitigated to a large extent via comprehensive insurance policies.

##### **Fundraising**

Under the provision of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 the Trust should provide information on fundraising practices.

The Trust in its approach to fundraising follows undertakes the following:

- Voluntary Contributions - outlined in its charging and remissions policy Section 5, Voluntary contributions can be invited from parents towards the cost of the academy activities which are related to the life and work of the academy. Such contributions will be genuinely voluntary and no child whose parents feel unable to contribute will be treated differently from the rest.
- Charitable fundraising takes place at each school for charities nominated at each school.
- Other school organised events (fete's, bingo etc.) are undertaken through voluntary donations of prizes and time. Income raised is used to purchase resources that the school identify
- All charity and school fundraising is undertaken internally and we do not currently make use of commercial participators/professional fundraisers.
- All internal fundraising is monitored and reviewed with the Trust audit systems.
- Any complaints would be reviewed in line with the Trust complaints policy.
- All fundraising events are voluntary and undertaken in a manner to support local and national charities and for school based events to also support proactive community engagement.

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

#### **Streamlined energy and carbon reporting**

##### UK energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions

The Trust is pleased to report its current UK based annual energy usage and associated annual greenhouse gas emissions pursuant to the Companies (Directors' Report) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Energy and Carbon Report) Regulations 2018 ("the 2018 Regulations") that came into force 1 April 2019.

##### Organisational boundary

In accordance with the 2018 Regulations, the energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions are for those within the UK only for all assets that come under an operational control boundary. This includes all 8 schools controlled during the reporting period along with minibuses and personal vehicles used for business mileage ("grey fleet").

##### Reporting period

The annual reporting period is 1 September to 31 August each year and the energy and carbon emissions are aligned to this period.

##### *Energy consumption*

|                                             | kWh       | kWh       |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Aggregate of energy consumption in the year |           |           |
| - Gas combustion                            | 6,571,102 |           |
| - Fuel consumed for transport               | 3,266,458 |           |
| - Electricity purchased                     | 14,904    |           |
|                                             |           | 9,852,464 |

##### *Emissions of CO2 equivalent*

|                                                              | metric tonnes | metric tonnes |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Scope 1 - direct emissions                                   |               |               |
| - Gas combustion                                             | 1,208.20      |               |
| - Fuel consumed for owned transport                          | 3.00          |               |
|                                                              |               | 1,211.20      |
| Scope 2 - indirect emissions                                 |               |               |
| - Electricity purchased                                      |               | 761.50        |
| Scope 3 - other indirect emissions                           |               |               |
| - Fuel consumed for transport not owned by the academy trust |               | 0.80          |
| Total gross emissions                                        |               | 1,973.50      |

##### *Intensity ratio*

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| Tonnes CO2e per pupil | 0.38 |
|-----------------------|------|



## WADE DEACON TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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##### *Quantification and reporting methodology*

The 2019 UK Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines and the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (revised edition) were followed. The 2020 UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting were used in emission calculations. The report has been reviewed independently by Briar Consulting Engineers Limited.

The electricity and gas consumption was compiled from invoice records and estimates using the pro-rata method. Transport energy and emissions were calculated from mileage records for minibuses and mileage claims for grey fleet. Generally gross calorific values were used except for grey fleet mileage energy calculations as per Government GHG Conversion Factors.

The associated emissions are divided into mandatory and voluntary emissions according to the 2018 Regulations, then further divided into the combustion of fuels and the operation of facilities (scope 1), purchased electricity (scope 2) and in-direct emissions that occur as a consequence of company activities (scope 3).

##### *Intensity measurement*

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector. Pupil numbers are based on the Autumn 2019 Census.

A secondary intensity ratio based on floor area (Gross Internal Area) is also provided to reflect the energy efficiency of the buildings, which are the source of the majority of emissions - 0.034 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per square metre floor area.

##### *Measures taken to improve energy efficiency*

Energy consumption is expected to be below typical this year due to the reduced occupancy across all sites following COVID-19 restrictions from 23rd March 2020. From this date, the schools were open to key workers' children only, with a phased and partial reopening for certain year groups occurring in June.

The health restrictions have also resulted in the greater utilisation of digital platforms (such as video conferencing) for staff meetings, which reduces the need for travel to and between sites. The emission saving resulting from these activities has not been quantified, but this practice has resulted in behaviour changes that are expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

Despite these temporary reductions in energy use due to COVID-19, the Trust is committed to reducing longer term emissions and practices good energy management. For example, all schools are encouraged to think about the energy they use by ensuring lights are not left on unnecessarily and that heating is only put on when required by the site teams. Furthermore, this year has seen the implementation of the following energy efficiency measures:

- Hillside High School completed the installation of energy efficient LED lighting across the school in September 2019, replacing inefficient T12 and T8 fluorescent lighting units. The project cost of approximately £85,000 and was part funded by Salix. The application to Salix estimated that the project will save 179,769 kWh per year (a 53% reduction), equating to an emission saving of 55.2 tCO<sub>2</sub>e and a cost saving of £28,763 per year.
- Wade Deacon High School have had replacement boilers installed this year, resulting in the more efficient use of natural gas for heating. Estimated energy savings have not been quantified for this action.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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##### **Plans for future periods**

##### **COVID-19 and the implications for future Trust plans and risk**

In the wake of the pandemic the importance of personalising the Trust's approach to meeting individual need is greater than ever. The return to full time education provision requires increased flexibility and contingency planning in responding to the challenges arising from the pandemic in order to ensure that pupils are supported to fulfil their potential academically, socially and emotionally.

The Trust is confident that the financial position reported within the financial statements to 31 August 2020 and the projections made within the Trusts 3 year financial budget projections give the Trust the financial scope to be able to respond to the challenges which the whole education sector will face as a result of the pandemic.

The Trust has a collaborative working approach across all of its academies and therefore has the ability to utilise resources across the whole Trust where required. This give the Trust significant flexibility to be able to deal with issues as they arise as well as allowing them to plan for multiple potential scenarios as the sector moves beyond the pandemic over the next 12 months.

##### **Plans for future periods**

The overall performance in this reporting period was extremely robust and as a consequence will directly reinforce the Trust's medium to long-term strategy. The Trust's main annual objectives for the next year are:

- To ensure the Academy Improvement Strategy that creates the culture, attitude and aspiration necessary to secure successful outcomes for young people is embedded into all Trust Schools.
- To build on the excellent reputation of our Academy.
- To grow the Teaching School and the strategic alliances in order to raise standards within the Trust and schools requiring support.
- To seek options for growth of the Trust in line with its strategic development plan.
- To strive for continuous improvement in examinations results and all indicators of performance in all of the Trust's Academies.
- To seek to increase numbers on roll at undersubscribed schools.
- To build adequate financial reserves to fund building and other investment needs.
- Development of the roles and separation of duties at each layer of Governance.

Key to success is the leadership and management of the Trust, ensuring that high quality leaders are in place through a rigorous recruitment system. The Trust will also take steps to identify future leaders within the Academy staff members and support them to gain middle and senior leadership opportunities, thus adding to the strengths of the Trust and all its academies.

Excellent standards of behaviour will be maintained to create a well ordered community with the learning and the support of students at the heart.

Teaching and learning will continue to have pace, purpose, variety and rigour. Students will be able to progress as a result of a suitable curriculum and relevant personalised programmes of study.

Staff will be confident practitioners with appropriate professional development opportunities. Educational outcomes in all performance indicators will be well above national averages and the Academies will be in the "high performing" category. The strategic development of the Academies will be effectively planned, monitored and supported by well-equipped and committed local governing bodies and the main Board of Trustees.

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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**Auditor**

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The auditors, WR Partners, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 10 December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr P Fowler

**Trustee**

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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##### Scope of responsibility

As trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Wade Deacon Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the chief executive officer, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Wade Deacon Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

As Trustees we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance issued in the DfE's Governance Handbook and Competency framework for Governance.

##### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Report of the Trustees and in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities. This year has seen significant challenges arising from the Covid-19 pandemic. Up to March 2020 there had been four meetings out of the proposed six for the year which had taken place. Due to the demands of the pandemic, the Board took the decision to have more regular meetings from that date and therefore an additional 4 meetings took place between April 2020 and August 2020 which allowed the Board more scope to deal with the issues that arose over that period. Due to the fact that not all Board members were able to attend all of these meetings a core group of Board members were identified to commit fully to these meetings to ensure that they were quorate. This therefore meant that there were 8 Board meetings during the year to 31st August 2020. Attendance records during the year to 31st August 2020 for meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

| Trustees                            | Meetings attended | Out of possible |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Mr I Hann                           | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr C McLeod                         | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr J K Woodroffe                    | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr M Dickinson                      | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr N Mcgee                          | 4                 | 4               |
| Miss C E Marsland                   | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr D Darlington                     | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr A Moss (Resigned 27 August 2020) | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr P Fowler                         | 4                 | 4               |
| Ms P Choudhary                      | 3                 | 4               |
| Ms M E Murphy                       | 4                 | 4               |

##### COVID-19 Pandemic Response Group – Trust Board Membership

| Trustee       | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Mr A Moss     | 4                 | 4                 |
| Mr P Fowler   | 3                 | 4                 |
| Ms C Marsland | 4                 | 4                 |
| Mr C McLeod   | 4                 | 4                 |
| Mr A Moss     | 4                 | 4                 |

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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The main responsibilities of the Board and issues dealt with during the year were as follows:

- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Hold the executive to account for the educational performance of the trust's academies and their pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- Oversee the financial performance of the trust and make sure its money is well spent.
- Ensure that appropriate and correct decision making is undertaken in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring that the Trust adequately meets its responsibilities to the Trusts' stakeholders.
- Provide a link to local School Governing bodies who meet on a regular basis to add an additional layer of governance challenge to the Trust Executive Team.

The Audit & Compliance Committee, which is a committee of the Trust Board, is responsible for overseeing the financial affairs of the Academy and reporting to the Trust Board. The Audit & Compliance Committee meets at least once a term or more frequently should the need arise. During the year to 31 August 2020 the Committee has formally met 4 times.

In relation to the Audit and Compliance Committee the main responsibilities and issues dealt with during the year were as follows:

- The initial review and authorisation of the annual budget;
- The regular monitoring of actual expenditure and income against budget;
- Ensuring the annual financial statements are produced in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP, the Academies Accounts Direction and other guidance issued by the ESFA;
- Ensuring that all of the financial returns required by the ESFA are correctly prepared and submitted on time;
- Capital project monitoring, procurement and reporting;
- Authorising changes to the Academy's personnel establishment;
- Reviewing the reports of the Responsible Officer on the effectiveness of the financial procedures and internal controls, which are also reported to the full Governing Body

In each instance the Audit Committee reported fully back to the Board making recommendations to be agreed by the Trust Board.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

| Trustees         | Meetings attended | Out of possible |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Mr C McLeod      | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr J K Woodroffe | 4                 | 4               |
| Mr N McGee       | 4                 | 4               |

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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##### **Review of value for money**

As accounting officer the chief executive officer has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The accounting officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- The economic, efficient and effective use of all resources to produce better educational results.
- The avoidance of waste and extravagance.
- The prudent and economical administration of the organisation.
- The establishment and maintenance of a system of financial governance, including sound internal spending controls, keeping up to date financial records, continuous financial monitoring and timely reporting.
- Ensuring all financial transactions represent value for money.

##### **The purpose of the system of internal control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Wade Deacon Trust for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

##### **Capacity to handle risk**

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

##### **The risk and control framework**

The academy trust's system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees;
- regular reviews by the finance and general purposes committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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##### Internal Audit

As our appointed internal auditors, WR Partners (utilising a segregated separate team to those who performed the external audit, as permitted by the Academies Financial Handbook 2019,) performed the internal audit function for the year to 31st August 2020.

The appointees' role included a programme of testing with regard to the effectiveness of the Trust's accounting and financial control systems, governance and risk management. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions in place this year's audit took place remotely with the Trust providing the required evidence electronically as requested. Following the work undertaken the appointees provided a detailed report to the Trustees' around the operation of these systems thereby supporting the Trustees in the discharge of their duties and financial responsibilities with regards to internal scrutiny in line with the requirements set out in the Academies Financial Handbook.

Under the revised terms of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020 it is no longer permissible for both the external and internal audit to be performed by the same organisation. To this end the Trust is in the process of undertaking a tender for the delivery of internal audit services for the period ending 31st August 2021 and beyond. The Trustees wish to place on record their thanks to WR Partners for the rigour and challenge they have provided in their role as internal auditors.

##### Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer, Mr G Kelly has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:-

- The work of the internal auditor;
- The work of the external auditor;
- The financial management and governance self assessment process;
- The work of the senior leaders and managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control and a plan to address areas for improvement and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10 December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr P Fowler  
Trustee



Mr G Kelly  
Accounting Officer

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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As accounting officer of Wade Deacon Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

I confirm that no instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been discovered to date. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the board of trustees and ESFA.



Mr G Kelly  
**Accounting Officer**

10 December 2020



## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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The trustees (who are also the directors of Wade Deacon Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring that grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 10 December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr P Fowler  
Trustee

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WADE DEACON TRUST**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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##### **Opinion**

We have audited the accounts of Wade Deacon Trust for the year ended 31 August 2020 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020.

##### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts' section of our report. We are independent of the academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the accounts any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the academy trust's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the accounts are authorised for issue.

##### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WADE DEACON TRUST (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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#### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the accounts is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

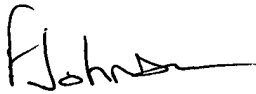
**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WADE DEACON TRUST  
(CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Fran Johnson BSc BFP FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of WR Partners**

10 December 2020

**Statutory Auditor**

Chartered Accountants & Statutory  
Auditor  
Drake House  
Gadbrook Park  
Northwich  
Cheshire  
CW9 7RA

## **WADE DEACON TRUST**

### **INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO WADE DEACON TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 18 February 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Wade Deacon Trust during the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Wade Deacon Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Wade Deacon Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Wade Deacon Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Wade Deacon Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Wade Deacon Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2019, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

#### **Approach**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

The objective of a limited assurance engagement is to perform such procedures as to obtain information and explanations in order to provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express a negative conclusion on regularity.

A limited assurance engagement is more limited in scope than a reasonable assurance engagement and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in a reasonable assurance engagement. Accordingly, we do not express a positive opinion.

Our engagement includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the regularity and propriety of the academy trust's income and expenditure.

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO  
WADE DEACON TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY  
(CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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**Conclusion**

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



**Reporting Accountant**

WR Partners  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor  
Drake House  
Gadbrook Park  
Northwich  
Cheshire  
CW9 7RA

Dated: 10 December 2020

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

|                                                             | Notes | Unrestricted funds<br>£ | General      | Restricted funds:<br>Fixed asset<br>£ | Total<br>2020<br>£ | Total<br>2019<br>£ |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Income and endowments from:</b>                          |       |                         |              |                                       |                    |                    |
| Donations and capital grants                                | 3     | 24,587                  | -            | 814,295                               | 838,882            | 1,211,943          |
| Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion     |       | -                       | -            | -                                     | -                  | 6,661,544          |
| Charitable activities:                                      |       |                         |              |                                       |                    |                    |
| - Funding for educational operations                        | 4     | 376,445                 | 33,425,259   | -                                     | 33,801,704         | 32,553,031         |
| - Funding for teaching school                               | 25    | -                       | 295,252      | -                                     | 295,252            | 277,826            |
| Other trading activities                                    | 5     | 135,546                 | -            | -                                     | 135,546            | 209,310            |
| <b>Total</b>                                                |       | 536,578                 | 33,720,511   | 814,295                               | 35,071,384         | 40,913,654         |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                                      |       |                         |              |                                       |                    |                    |
| Charitable activities:                                      |       |                         |              |                                       |                    |                    |
| - Educational operations                                    | 8     | -                       | 33,869,585   | 2,327,591                             | 36,197,176         | 35,771,082         |
| - Teaching School                                           |       | -                       | 241,945      | -                                     | 241,945            | 278,146            |
| <b>Total</b>                                                | 6     | -                       | 34,111,530   | 2,327,591                             | 36,439,121         | 36,049,228         |
| <b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>                             |       | 536,578                 | (391,019)    | (1,513,296)                           | (1,367,737)        | 4,864,426          |
| Transfers between funds                                     | 17    | -                       | (164,949)    | 164,949                               | -                  | -                  |
| <b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>                      |       |                         |              |                                       |                    |                    |
| Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes | 19    | -                       | 185,000      | -                                     | 185,000            | (5,695,000)        |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>                                |       | 536,578                 | (370,968)    | (1,348,347)                           | (1,182,737)        | (830,574)          |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>                              |       |                         |              |                                       |                    |                    |
| Total funds brought forward                                 |       | 545,497                 | (16,579,047) | 58,565,217                            | 42,531,667         | 43,362,241         |
| Total funds carried forward                                 |       | 1,082,075               | (16,950,015) | 57,216,870                            | 41,348,930         | 42,531,667         |

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

| Comparative year information<br>Year ended 31 August 2019 | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted funds:<br>General Fixed asset<br>£ £ |                   | Total<br>2019<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Income and endowments from:</b>                        |       |                            |                                                 |                   |                    |
| Donations and capital grants                              | 3     | 24,438                     | -                                               | 1,187,505         | 1,211,943          |
| Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion   |       | -                          | (1,188,456)                                     | 7,850,000         | 6,661,544          |
| Charitable activities:                                    |       |                            |                                                 |                   |                    |
| - Funding for educational operations                      | 4     | 254,435                    | 32,298,596                                      | -                 | 32,553,031         |
| - Funding for teaching school                             | 25    | -                          | 277,826                                         | -                 | 277,826            |
| Other trading activities                                  | 5     | 209,310                    | -                                               | -                 | 209,310            |
| <b>Total</b>                                              |       | <u>488,183</u>             | <u>31,387,966</u>                               | <u>9,037,505</u>  | <u>40,913,654</u>  |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                                    |       |                            |                                                 |                   |                    |
| Charitable activities:                                    |       |                            |                                                 |                   |                    |
| - Educational operations                                  | 8     | -                          | 33,462,474                                      | 2,308,608         | 35,771,082         |
| - Teaching School                                         |       | -                          | 278,146                                         | -                 | 278,146            |
| <b>Total</b>                                              | 6     | <u>-</u>                   | <u>33,740,620</u>                               | <u>2,308,608</u>  | <u>36,049,228</u>  |
| <b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>                           |       | 488,183                    | (2,352,654)                                     | 6,728,897         | 4,864,426          |
| Transfers between funds                                   | 17    | -                          | (113,920)                                       | 113,920           | -                  |
| <b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>                    |       |                            |                                                 |                   |                    |
| Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes       | 19    | -                          | (5,695,000)                                     | -                 | (5,695,000)        |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>                              |       | 488,183                    | (8,161,574)                                     | 6,842,817         | (830,574)          |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>                            |       |                            |                                                 |                   |                    |
| Total funds brought forward                               |       | 57,314                     | (8,417,473)                                     | 51,722,400        | 43,362,241         |
| Total funds carried forward                               |       | <u>545,497</u>             | <u>(16,579,047)</u>                             | <u>58,565,217</u> | <u>42,531,667</u>  |



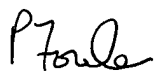
# WADE DEACON TRUST

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

|                                                                   | Notes | 2020<br>£        | £                 | 2019<br>£        | £                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                               |       |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| Tangible assets                                                   | 12    | 56,534,205       |                   | 58,025,520       |                   |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                             |       |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| Debtors                                                           | 13    | 1,173,801        |                   | 1,702,899        |                   |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                          |       | 4,343,989        |                   | 3,517,702        |                   |
|                                                                   |       | <u>5,517,790</u> |                   | <u>5,220,601</u> |                   |
| <b>Current liabilities</b>                                        |       |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year                    | 14    | (1,606,123)      |                   | (2,667,040)      |                   |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                                         |       |                  | 3,911,667         |                  | 2,553,561         |
| <b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>                      |       |                  | <u>60,445,872</u> |                  | <u>60,579,081</u> |
| Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year           | 15    |                  | (44,942)          |                  | (67,414)          |
| <b>Net assets before defined benefit pension scheme liability</b> |       |                  | <u>60,400,930</u> |                  | <u>60,511,667</u> |
| Defined benefit pension scheme liability                          | 19    |                  | (19,052,000)      |                  | (17,980,000)      |
| <b>Total net assets</b>                                           |       |                  | <u>41,348,930</u> |                  | <u>42,531,667</u> |
| <b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>                                |       |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                                           | 17    |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| - Fixed asset funds                                               |       |                  | 57,216,870        |                  | 58,565,217        |
| - Restricted income funds                                         |       |                  | 2,101,985         |                  | 1,400,953         |
| - Pension reserve                                                 |       |                  | (19,052,000)      |                  | (17,980,000)      |
| <b>Total restricted funds</b>                                     |       |                  | <u>40,266,855</u> |                  | <u>41,986,170</u> |
| <b>Unrestricted income funds</b>                                  | 17    |                  | 1,082,075         |                  | 545,497           |
| <b>Total funds</b>                                                |       |                  | <u>41,348,930</u> |                  | <u>42,531,667</u> |

The accounts on pages 37 to 60 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 10 December 2020 and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr P Fowler

Company Number 08278808

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

|                                                                          | Notes | 2020<br>£        | £                       | 2019<br>£          | £                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                              |       |                  |                         |                    |                         |
| Net cash provided by operating activities                                | 20    | 863,249          |                         | 1,065,229          |                         |
| Cash funds transferred on conversion                                     |       | -                |                         | 14,990             |                         |
|                                                                          |       | <u>863,249</u>   |                         | <u>1,080,219</u>   |                         |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                              |       |                  |                         |                    |                         |
| Capital grants from DfE Group                                            |       | 784,086          |                         | 875,618            |                         |
| Capital funding received from sponsors and others                        |       | 30,209           |                         | 311,887            |                         |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets                                        |       | <u>(836,276)</u> |                         | <u>(1,378,277)</u> |                         |
| <b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>                             |       |                  | (21,981)                |                    | (190,772)               |
| <b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>                              |       |                  |                         |                    |                         |
| Repayment of other loan                                                  |       | <u>(14,981)</u>  |                         | <u>74,904</u>      |                         |
| <b>Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities</b>               |       |                  | (14,981)                |                    | 74,904                  |
| <b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b> |       |                  | 826,287                 |                    | 964,351                 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year                       |       |                  | <u>3,517,702</u>        |                    | <u>2,553,351</u>        |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>                      |       |                  | <u><u>4,343,989</u></u> |                    | <u><u>3,517,702</u></u> |

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### 1 Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted (which have been applied consistently, except where noted), judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

##### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

##### 1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the accounts and have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

##### 1.3 Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the academy trust has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.

###### Grants

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of meeting any performance-related conditions there is not unconditional entitlement to the income and its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income until the performance-related conditions are met. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants are recognised in full when there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grants are reflected in the balance sheet in the restricted fixed asset fund. Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

###### Donations

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance-related conditions) where the receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

###### Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the academy trust has provided the goods or services.

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### Donated goods, facilities and services

Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. If it is practical to assess the fair value at receipt, it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the accounts until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

#### 1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

##### Charitable activities

These are costs incurred on the academy trust's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the academy trust apportioned to charitable activities.

#### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £500 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding that require the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Land and buildings             | 2% on cost                  |
| Assets under construction      | not provided                |
| Computer equipment             | 20% on cost and 10% on cost |
| Fixtures, fittings & equipment | 20% on cost and 10% on cost |
| Motor vehicles                 | 25% on cost                 |

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation is not charged on these assets until they are brought into use.

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.6 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the academy trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

#### 1.7 Leased assets

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

The academy trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the academy trust and their measurement basis are as follows.

##### Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

##### Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

#### 1.9 Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### 1.10 Pensions benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). These are defined benefit schemes and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to net income or expenditure are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the statement of financial activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

##### 1.11 Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the academy trust at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Department for Education Group.

#### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Accounting estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

##### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The academy trust makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2020. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**3 Donations and capital grants**

|                 | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>2020<br>£ | Total<br>2019<br>£ |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Capital grants  | -                          | 814,295                  | 814,295            | 1,187,505          |
| Other donations | 24,587                     | -                        | 24,587             | 24,438             |
|                 | <u>24,587</u>              | <u>814,295</u>           | <u>838,882</u>     | <u>1,211,943</u>   |

**4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations**

|                                | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>2020<br>£ | Total<br>2019<br>£ |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>DfE / ESFA grants</b>       |                            |                          |                    |                    |
| General annual grant (GAG)     | -                          | 27,671,259               | 27,671,259         | 27,333,549         |
| Other DfE group grants         | -                          | 4,103,488                | 4,103,488          | 3,167,727          |
|                                | <u>-</u>                   | <u>31,774,747</u>        | <u>31,774,747</u>  | <u>30,501,276</u>  |
| <b>Other government grants</b> |                            |                          |                    |                    |
| Local authority grants         | -                          | 1,319,520                | 1,319,520          | 1,226,421          |
| Other restricted grants        | -                          | 17,160                   | 17,160             | 2,807              |
|                                | <u>-</u>                   | <u>1,336,680</u>         | <u>1,336,680</u>   | <u>1,229,228</u>   |
| <b>Other funding</b>           |                            |                          |                    |                    |
| Teaching School                | -                          | 295,252                  | 295,252            | 277,826            |
| Other incoming resources       | 376,445                    | 313,832                  | 690,277            | 822,527            |
|                                | <u>376,445</u>             | <u>609,084</u>           | <u>985,529</u>     | <u>1,100,353</u>   |
| <b>Total funding</b>           | <u>376,445</u>             | <u>33,720,511</u>        | <u>34,096,956</u>  | <u>32,830,857</u>  |

**5 Other trading activities**

|                    | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>2020<br>£ | Total<br>2019<br>£ |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Hire of facilities | 53,546                     | -                        | 53,546             | 56,677             |
| Staff consultancy  | 82,000                     | -                        | 82,000             | 152,633            |
|                    | <u>135,546</u>             | <u>-</u>                 | <u>135,546</u>     | <u>209,310</u>     |

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

### 6 Expenditure

|                                  | Staff costs<br>£  | Non-pay expenditure<br>Premises<br>£ | Other<br>£       | Total<br>2020<br>£ | Total<br>2019<br>£ |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Academy's educational operations |                   |                                      |                  |                    |                    |
| - Direct costs                   | 22,352,592        | 1,326,727                            | 2,343,778        | 26,023,097         | 24,581,813         |
| - Allocated support costs        | 3,012,748         | 5,030,948                            | 2,130,383        | 10,174,079         | 11,189,269         |
| Teaching School                  |                   |                                      |                  |                    |                    |
| - Direct costs                   | 139,052           | -                                    | -                | 139,052            | 135,661            |
| - Allocated support costs        | -                 | -                                    | 102,893          | 102,893            | 142,485            |
|                                  | <u>25,504,392</u> | <u>6,357,675</u>                     | <u>4,577,054</u> | <u>36,439,121</u>  | <u>36,049,228</u>  |

#### Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

|                                                   | 2020<br>£ | 2019<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Fees payable to auditor for:                      |           |           |
| - Audit                                           | 18,500    | 18,500    |
| - Other services                                  | 15,290    | 12,220    |
| Operating lease rentals                           | 2,309,935 | 2,294,338 |
| Depreciation of tangible fixed assets             | 2,327,591 | 2,308,608 |
| Net interest on defined benefit pension liability | 327,000   | 305,000   |

### 7 Central services

The academy trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- human resources;
- financial services;
- legal services;
- educational support services.

The academy trust charges for these services on a flat 4% of income basis.

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

|                                | 2020<br>£        | 2019<br>£        |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Wade Deacon High School        | 312,604          | 314,559          |
| Hillside High School           | 157,649          | 162,463          |
| Widnes Academy                 | 29,238           | 26,148           |
| Halewood Academy               | 262,720          | 189,675          |
| The Grange Academy             | 201,537          | 210,069          |
| Sylvester Primary Academy      | 36,901           | 35,534           |
| Whiston Willis Primary Academy | 45,549           | 45,831           |
| Yew Tree Primary Academy       | 47,794           | 45,695           |
|                                | <u>1,093,992</u> | <u>1,029,974</u> |



**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**8 Charitable activities**

|                            | <b>2020</b>       | <b>2019</b>       |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                            | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>          |
| All from restricted funds: |                   |                   |
| <b>Direct costs</b>        |                   |                   |
| Educational operations     | 26,023,097        | 24,581,813        |
| Teaching School            | 139,052           | 135,661           |
| <b>Support costs</b>       |                   |                   |
| Educational operations     | 10,174,079        | 11,189,269        |
| Teaching School            | 102,893           | 142,485           |
|                            | <u>36,439,121</u> | <u>36,049,228</u> |

|                                  | <b>Teaching<br/>School</b> | <b>Educational<br/>operations</b> | <b>Total<br/>2020</b> | <b>Total<br/>2019</b> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                                  | <b>£</b>                   | <b>£</b>                          | <b>£</b>              | <b>£</b>              |
| <b>Analysis of support costs</b> |                            |                                   |                       |                       |
| Support staff costs              | -                          | 3,381,977                         | 3,381,977             | 4,196,616             |
| Depreciation                     | -                          | 1,000,864                         | 1,000,864             | 997,933               |
| Technology costs                 | -                          | 91,718                            | 91,718                | 145,240               |
| Premises costs                   | -                          | 4,030,084                         | 4,030,084             | 3,932,700             |
| Legal costs                      | -                          | 69,386                            | 69,386                | 142,594               |
| Other support costs              | 102,893                    | 1,564,803                         | 1,667,696             | 1,882,131             |
| Governance costs                 | -                          | 35,247                            | 35,247                | 34,540                |
|                                  | <u>102,893</u>             | <u>10,174,079</u>                 | <u>10,276,972</u>     | <u>11,331,754</u>     |

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**9 Staff**

**Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were:

|                                         | 2020<br>£  | 2019<br>£  |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Wages and salaries                      | 18,148,257 | 18,544,722 |
| Social security costs                   | 1,828,043  | 1,698,834  |
| Pension costs                           | 4,755,094  | 3,823,836  |
| Amounts paid to employees               | 24,731,394 | 24,067,392 |
| Agency staff costs                      | 760,103    | 820,682    |
| Staff restructuring costs               | 12,895     | 282,273    |
| Amounts paid to staff                   | 25,504,392 | 25,170,347 |
| Staff development and other staff costs | 548,296    | 439,250    |
| Total staff expenditure                 | 26,052,688 | 25,609,597 |

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

|                     |        |         |
|---------------------|--------|---------|
| Redundancy payments | -      | 118,620 |
| Severance payments  | 12,895 | 163,653 |
|                     | 12,895 | 282,273 |

**Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments**

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £12,895 (2019: £43,079). Individually, the payment was £12,895.

**Staff numbers**

The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year was as follows:

|                               | 2020<br>Number | 2019<br>Number |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Teachers and teaching support | 529            | 554            |
| Administration and support    | 163            | 211            |
| Management                    | 14             | 14             |
|                               | 706            | 779            |

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

#### 9 Staff

(Continued)

##### Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

|                     | 2020<br>Number | 2019<br>Number |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| £60,001 - £70,000   | 14             | 3              |
| £70,001 - £80,000   | 7              | 2              |
| £80,001 - £90,000   | 3              | 2              |
| £90,001 - £100,000  | -              | 1              |
| £100,001 - £110,000 | 2              | 1              |
| £120,001 - £130,000 | 1              | 1              |
|                     | <u>      </u>  | <u>      </u>  |

##### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employers national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,321,967 (2019: £1,096,433).

#### 10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

None of the trustees received remuneration or other benefits from an employment with the academy trust in the year ended 31 August 2020.

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2020 nor for the year ended 31 August 2019.

#### 11 Insurance for trustees and officers

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £3,450 (2019: £3,450). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**12 Tangible fixed assets**

|                       | Land and<br>buildings | Assets<br>under<br>construction | Computer<br>equipment | Fixtures,<br>fittings &<br>equipment | Motor<br>vehicles | Total      |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|
|                       | £                     | £                               | £                     | £                                    | £                 | £          |
| <b>Cost</b>           |                       |                                 |                       |                                      |                   |            |
| At 1 September 2019   | 59,630,137            | 635,769                         | 2,663,576             | 4,968,507                            | 28,785            | 67,926,774 |
| Transfer              | 623,774               | (623,774)                       | -                     | -                                    | -                 | -          |
| Additions             | 188,965               | 120,631                         | 176,267               | 350,413                              | -                 | 836,276    |
| Disposals             | -                     | -                               | (10,000)              | (1,000)                              | -                 | (11,000)   |
| At 31 August 2020     | 60,442,876            | 132,626                         | 2,829,843             | 5,317,920                            | 28,785            | 68,752,050 |
| <b>Depreciation</b>   |                       |                                 |                       |                                      |                   |            |
| At 1 September 2019   | 5,224,925             | -                               | 1,986,664             | 2,661,920                            | 27,745            | 9,901,254  |
| On disposals          | -                     | -                               | (10,000)              | (1,000)                              | -                 | (11,000)   |
| Charge for the year   | 1,177,118             | -                               | 506,492               | 643,902                              | 79                | 2,327,591  |
| At 31 August 2020     | 6,402,043             | -                               | 2,483,156             | 3,304,822                            | 27,824            | 12,217,845 |
| <b>Net book value</b> |                       |                                 |                       |                                      |                   |            |
| At 31 August 2020     | 54,040,833            | 132,626                         | 346,687               | 2,013,098                            | 961               | 56,534,205 |
| At 31 August 2019     | 54,405,212            | 635,769                         | 676,912               | 2,306,587                            | 1,040             | 58,025,520 |

**13 Debtors**

|                                | 2020<br>£        | 2019<br>£        |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Trade debtors                  | 111,186          | 129,247          |
| Other debtors                  | 303,134          | 411,963          |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 759,481          | 1,161,689        |
|                                | <u>1,173,801</u> | <u>1,702,899</u> |

**14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

|                              | 2020<br>£        | 2019<br>£        |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Other loans                  | 14,981           | 7,490            |
| Trade creditors              | 1,018,709        | 1,305,667        |
| Other creditors              | 9,280            | 14,162           |
| Accruals and deferred income | 563,153          | 1,339,721        |
|                              | <u>1,606,123</u> | <u>2,667,040</u> |

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020.**

**15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year**

|                                                         | <b>2020</b>   | <b>2019</b>   |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                                         | <b>£</b>      | <b>£</b>      |
| Other loans                                             | 44,942        | 67,414        |
|                                                         | <u>44,942</u> | <u>67,414</u> |
| <b>Analysis of loans</b>                                | <b>2020</b>   | <b>2019</b>   |
|                                                         | <b>£</b>      | <b>£</b>      |
| Wholly repayable within five years                      | 59,923        | 74,904        |
| Less: included in current liabilities                   | (14,981)      | (7,490)       |
|                                                         | <u>44,942</u> | <u>67,414</u> |
| Amounts included above                                  | <u>44,942</u> | <u>67,414</u> |
| <b>Loan maturity</b>                                    |               |               |
| Debt due in one year or less                            | 14,981        | 7,490         |
| Due in more than one year but not more than two years   | 14,981        | 14,981        |
| Due in more than two years but not more than five years | 29,961        | 52,433        |
|                                                         | <u>59,923</u> | <u>74,904</u> |
|                                                         | <u>59,923</u> | <u>74,904</u> |

Loans of £74,904 from Salix for the provision of energy efficient lighting were provided in the year ended 31 August 2019 on the following terms - interest free and repayable over 5 years.

**16 Deferred income**

|                                          | <b>2020</b>    | <b>2019</b>    |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                          | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>       |
| Deferred income is included within:      |                |                |
| Creditors due within one year            | 207,748        | 186,357        |
|                                          | <u>207,748</u> | <u>186,357</u> |
| Deferred income at 1 September 2019      | 186,357        | 54,497         |
| Released from previous years             | (186,357)      | (54,497)       |
| Resources deferred in the year           | 207,748        | 186,357        |
|                                          | <u>207,748</u> | <u>186,357</u> |
| <b>Deferred income at 31 August 2020</b> | <u>207,748</u> | <u>186,357</u> |

The main elements of deferred income at 31 August 2020 are rates relief grant income and Universal Infant Free School Meal grant income relating to the subsequent academic year.

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**17 Funds**

|                                     | Balance at<br>1 September<br>2019<br>£ | Income<br>£       | Expenditure<br>£    | Gains,<br>losses and<br>transfers<br>£ | Balance at<br>31 August<br>2020<br>£ |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Restricted general funds</b>     |                                        |                   |                     |                                        |                                      |
| General Annual Grant (GAG)          | 1,391,282                              | 27,671,259        | (26,858,585)        | (164,949)                              | 2,039,007                            |
| Other DfE / ESFA grants             | -                                      | 4,103,488         | (4,103,488)         | -                                      | -                                    |
| Other government grants             | -                                      | 1,336,680         | (1,336,680)         | -                                      | -                                    |
| Teaching School                     | 9,671                                  | 295,252           | (241,945)           | -                                      | 62,978                               |
| Other restricted funds              | -                                      | 313,832           | (313,832)           | -                                      | -                                    |
| Pension reserve                     | (17,980,000)                           | -                 | (1,257,000)         | 185,000                                | (19,052,000)                         |
|                                     | <u>(16,579,047)</u>                    | <u>33,720,511</u> | <u>(34,111,530)</u> | <u>20,051</u>                          | <u>(16,950,015)</u>                  |
| <b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b> |                                        |                   |                     |                                        |                                      |
| DfE group capital grants            | 58,565,217                             | 814,295           | (2,327,591)         | 164,949                                | 57,216,870                           |
|                                     | <u>58,565,217</u>                      | <u>814,295</u>    | <u>(2,327,591)</u>  | <u>164,949</u>                         | <u>57,216,870</u>                    |
| <b>Total restricted funds</b>       | <u>41,986,170</u>                      | <u>34,534,806</u> | <u>(36,439,121)</u> | <u>185,000</u>                         | <u>40,266,855</u>                    |
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>           |                                        |                   |                     |                                        |                                      |
| General funds                       | 545,497                                | 536,578           | -                   | -                                      | 1,082,075                            |
|                                     | <u>545,497</u>                         | <u>536,578</u>    | <u>-</u>            | <u>-</u>                               | <u>1,082,075</u>                     |
| <b>Total funds</b>                  | <u>42,531,667</u>                      | <u>35,071,384</u> | <u>(36,439,121)</u> | <u>185,000</u>                         | <u>41,348,930</u>                    |

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

**General fund**

Represents amounts derived from the hire of facilities and investment income.

**General Annual Grant**

This represents the balance remaining from core funding provided by the EFSA for the schools core educational activities.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2020.

**Other Restricted General Funds**

This represents the balance remaining from other funding provided by the EFSA/DfE and local authorities for the academy trust's educational activities.

**Pension Reserve**

This is the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit attributable to the school and is derived from the report of the actuary produced as at 31 August 2020.

**Fixed Asset Restricted Funds**

This represents the value of fixed assets shown on the balance sheet plus any other assets and liabilities (including cash) relating to the Trust's capital projects. Transfers between restricted and fixed asset funds represent authorised purchases of fixed assets from revenue funds.

WADE DEACON TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

17 Funds

(Continued)

Comparative information in respect of the preceding period is as follows:

|                                     | Balance at<br>1 September<br>2018<br>£ | Income<br>£       | Expenditure<br>£    | Gains,<br>losses and<br>transfers<br>£ | Balance at<br>31 August<br>2019<br>£ |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Restricted general funds</b>     |                                        |                   |                     |                                        |                                      |
| General Annual Grant (GAG)          | 1,059,809                              | 27,333,549        | (26,888,156)        | (113,920)                              | 1,391,282                            |
| Other DfE / ESFA grants             | 407,727                                | 3,167,727         | (3,575,454)         | -                                      | -                                    |
| Other government grants             | -                                      | 1,229,228         | (1,229,228)         | -                                      | -                                    |
| Teaching School                     | 9,991                                  | 277,826           | (278,146)           | -                                      | 9,671                                |
| Other restricted funds              | -                                      | 564,636           | (564,636)           | -                                      | -                                    |
| Pension reserve                     | (9,895,000)                            | (1,185,000)       | (1,205,000)         | (5,695,000)                            | (17,980,000)                         |
|                                     | <u>(8,417,473)</u>                     | <u>31,387,966</u> | <u>(33,740,620)</u> | <u>(5,808,920)</u>                     | <u>(16,579,047)</u>                  |
| <b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b> |                                        |                   |                     |                                        |                                      |
| Transfer on conversion              | -                                      | 7,850,000         | -                   | (7,850,000)                            | -                                    |
| DfE group capital grants            | 51,722,400                             | 1,187,505         | (2,308,608)         | 7,963,920                              | 58,565,217                           |
|                                     | <u>51,722,400</u>                      | <u>9,037,505</u>  | <u>(2,308,608)</u>  | <u>113,920</u>                         | <u>58,565,217</u>                    |
| <b>Total restricted funds</b>       | <u>43,304,927</u>                      | <u>40,425,471</u> | <u>(36,049,228)</u> | <u>(5,695,000)</u>                     | <u>41,986,170</u>                    |
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>           |                                        |                   |                     |                                        |                                      |
| General funds                       | 57,314                                 | 488,183           | -                   | -                                      | 545,497                              |
|                                     | <u>57,314</u>                          | <u>488,183</u>    | <u>-</u>            | <u>-</u>                               | <u>545,497</u>                       |
| <b>Total funds</b>                  | <u>43,362,241</u>                      | <u>40,913,654</u> | <u>(36,049,228)</u> | <u>(5,695,000)</u>                     | <u>42,531,667</u>                    |

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

#### 17 Funds

(Continued)

##### Total funds analysis by academy

|                                                            | 2020         | 2019         |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                                            | £            | £            |
| Fund balances at 31 August 2020 were allocated as follows: |              |              |
| Wade Deacon High School                                    | 1,839,249    | 1,413,868    |
| Hillside High School                                       | 152,194      | 3,745        |
| Widnes Academy                                             | 109,274      | 97,125       |
| Halewood Academy                                           | 115,018      | (65,185)     |
| The Grange Academy                                         | 516,513      | 81,959       |
| Sylvester Primary Academy                                  | 36,251       | 45,993       |
| Whiston Willis Primary Academy                             | 94,570       | 150,158      |
| Yew Tree Primary Academy                                   | 49,411       | (16,706)     |
| Central services                                           | 271,580      | 235,493      |
| Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve         | 3,184,060    | 1,946,450    |
| Restricted fixed asset fund                                | 57,216,870   | 58,565,217   |
| Pension reserve                                            | (19,052,000) | (17,980,000) |
| Total funds                                                | 41,348,930   | 42,531,667   |

##### Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows:

|                                   | Teaching and<br>educational<br>support staff | Other support<br>staff costs | Educational<br>supplies | Other costs<br>excluding<br>depreciation | Total<br>2020 | Total<br>2019 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                   | £                                            | £                            | £                       | £                                        | £             | £             |
| Wade Deacon High School           | 6,110,932                                    | 886,537                      | 1,202,184               | 430,403                                  | 8,630,056     | 8,091,863     |
| Hillside High School              | 2,948,924                                    | 526,032                      | 473,549                 | 397,414                                  | 4,345,919     | 4,898,096     |
| Widnes Academy                    | 661,343                                      | 298,125                      | 100,052                 | 1,336,691                                | 2,396,211     | 1,021,249     |
| Halewood Academy                  | 4,699,707                                    | 399,696                      | 420,706                 | 1,480,831                                | 7,000,940     | 6,999,951     |
| The Grange Academy                | 4,350,193                                    | 356,100                      | 530,816                 | 1,058,981                                | 6,296,090     | 6,382,699     |
| Sylvester Primary<br>Academy      | 944,595                                      | 50,308                       | 124,478                 | 126,245                                  | 1,245,626     | 1,249,620     |
| Whiston Willis Primary<br>Academy | 1,098,623                                    | 116,769                      | 174,278                 | 138,495                                  | 1,528,165     | 1,684,940     |
| Yew Tree Primary<br>Academy       | 1,388,067                                    | 125,322                      | 193,090                 | 185,003                                  | 1,891,482     | 1,961,680     |
| Central services                  | 468,327                                      | 623,088                      | 298,317                 | 210,772                                  | 1,389,732     | 1,450,522     |
|                                   | 22,670,711                                   | 3,381,977                    | 3,517,470               | 5,364,835                                | 34,724,221    | 33,740,620    |



# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

#### 18 Analysis of net assets between funds

|                                                            | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted funds:<br>General<br>£ | Fixed asset<br>£  | Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:</b> |                            |                                   |                   |                     |
| Tangible fixed assets                                      | -                          | -                                 | 56,534,205        | 56,534,205          |
| Current assets                                             | 1,082,075                  | 3,685,636                         | 750,079           | 5,517,790           |
| Creditors falling due within one year                      | -                          | (1,583,651)                       | (22,472)          | (1,606,123)         |
| Creditors falling due after one year                       | -                          | -                                 | (44,942)          | (44,942)            |
| Defined benefit pension liability                          | -                          | (19,052,000)                      | -                 | (19,052,000)        |
| <b>Total net assets</b>                                    | <b>1,082,075</b>           | <b>(16,950,015)</b>               | <b>57,216,870</b> | <b>41,348,930</b>   |

|                                                            | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted funds:<br>General<br>£ | Fixed asset<br>£  | Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are represented by:</b> |                            |                                   |                   |                     |
| Tangible fixed assets                                      | -                          | -                                 | 58,025,520        | 58,025,520          |
| Current assets                                             | 545,497                    | 3,365,438                         | 1,309,666         | 5,220,601           |
| Creditors falling due within one year                      | -                          | (1,964,485)                       | (702,555)         | (2,667,040)         |
| Creditors falling due after one year                       | -                          | -                                 | (67,414)          | (67,414)            |
| Defined benefit pension liability                          | -                          | (17,980,000)                      | -                 | (17,980,000)        |
| <b>Total net assets</b>                                    | <b>545,497</b>             | <b>(16,579,047)</b>               | <b>58,565,217</b> | <b>42,531,667</b>   |

#### 19 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and two Local Government Pension Schemes (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which are managed by Cheshire Pensions & Merseyside Pensions. All schemes are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2019.

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

##### Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary. These contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

## WADE DEACON TRUST

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

#### 19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

##### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. The assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £3,825,094 (2019: £2,923,836).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

##### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 14.4% to 19.2% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

| Total contributions made | 2020<br>£ | 2019<br>£ |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Employer's contributions | 1,394,000 | 1,382,000 |
| Employees' contributions | 305,000   | 354,000   |
| Total contributions      | 1,699,000 | 1,736,000 |

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**19 Pension and similar obligations**

**(Continued)**

| <b>Principal actuarial assumptions</b>             | <b>2020<br/>%</b> | <b>2019<br/>%</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Rate of increase in salaries                       | 3.7               | 3.4               |
| Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation | 2.4               | 2.2               |
| Discount rate for scheme liabilities               | 1.8               | 1.8               |
| Inflation assumption (CPI)                         | 2.4               | 2.1               |
| Commutation of pensions to lump sums               | 50.0              | 50.0              |

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

|                      | <b>2020<br/>Years</b> | <b>2019<br/>Years</b> |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Retiring today       |                       |                       |
| - Males              | 21.0                  | 22.2                  |
| - Females            | 23.9                  | 24.9                  |
| Retiring in 20 years |                       |                       |
| - Males              | 22.4                  | 25.0                  |
| - Females            | 25.8                  | 27.7                  |

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

|                               | <b>2020<br/>£000s</b> | <b>2019<br/>£000s</b> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Discount rate + 0.1%          | (833)                 | (830)                 |
| Discount rate - 0.1%          | 833                   | 830                   |
| Mortality assumption + 1 year | 1192                  | 901                   |
| Mortality assumption - 1 year | (1,192)               | (901)                 |
| CPI rate + 0.1%               | 760                   | 728                   |
| CPI rate - 0.1%               | (760)                 | (728)                 |

**The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme**

|                                     | <b>2020<br/>Fair value<br/>£</b> | <b>2019<br/>Fair value<br/>£</b> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Equities                            | 7,280,000                        | 6,444,000                        |
| Gilts                               | 943,000                          | 878,000                          |
| Corporate bonds                     | 5,346,000                        | 5,358,000                        |
| Property                            | 1,534,000                        | 1,177,000                        |
| Other assets                        | 696,000                          | 334,000                          |
| <b>Total market value of assets</b> | <b>15,799,000</b>                | <b>14,191,000</b>                |

The actual return on scheme assets was £382,000 (2019: £1,015,000).

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**19 Pension and similar obligations**

**(Continued)**

| <b>Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities</b> | <b>2020</b>      | <b>2019</b>      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                                                   | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>         |
| Current service cost                                              | 2,287,000        | 1,705,000        |
| Past service cost                                                 | 26,000           | 565,000          |
| Interest income                                                   | (278,000)        | (348,000)        |
| Interest cost                                                     | 605,000          | 653,000          |
| Administration expenses                                           | 11,000           | 12,000           |
|                                                                   | <u>2,651,000</u> | <u>2,587,000</u> |

| <b>Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations</b> | <b>2020</b>       | <b>2019</b>       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                                                    | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>          |
| At 1 September 2019                                                | 32,171,000        | 21,440,000        |
| Obligations acquired on conversion                                 | -                 | 1,288,000         |
| Current service cost                                               | 2,287,000         | 1,705,000         |
| Interest cost                                                      | 605,000           | 653,000           |
| Employee contributions                                             | 305,000           | 354,000           |
| Actuarial (gain)/loss                                              | (81,000)          | 6,362,000         |
| Benefits paid                                                      | (473,000)         | (208,000)         |
| Past service cost                                                  | 26,000            | 565,000           |
| Effect of non-routine settlements and administration expenses      | 11,000            | 12,000            |
|                                                                    | <u>34,851,000</u> | <u>32,171,000</u> |

**Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets**

|                               | <b>2020</b>       | <b>2019</b>       |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                               | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>          |
| At 1 September 2019           | 14,191,000        | 11,545,000        |
| Assets acquired on conversion | -                 | 103,000           |
| Interest income               | 278,000           | 348,000           |
| Actuarial gain                | 104,000           | 667,000           |
| Employer contributions        | 1,394,000         | 1,382,000         |
| Employee contributions        | 305,000           | 354,000           |
| Benefits paid                 | (473,000)         | (208,000)         |
|                               | <u>15,799,000</u> | <u>14,191,000</u> |

**WADE DEACON TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**20 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities**

|                                                                                                  | 2020<br>£      | 2019<br>£        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities) | (1,367,737)    | 4,864,426        |
| Adjusted for:                                                                                    |                |                  |
| Net surplus on conversion to academy                                                             | -              | (6,661,544)      |
| Capital grants from DfE and other capital income                                                 | (814,295)      | (1,187,505)      |
| Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable                                         | 930,000        | 900,000          |
| Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost                                                      | 327,000        | 305,000          |
| Depreciation of tangible fixed assets                                                            | 2,327,591      | 2,308,608        |
| Decrease/(increase) in debtors                                                                   | 529,098        | (222,156)        |
| (Decrease)/increase in creditors                                                                 | (1,068,408)    | 776,846          |
| Stocks, debtors and creditors transferred on conversion                                          | -              | (18,446)         |
| <b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>                                                 | <b>863,249</b> | <b>1,065,229</b> |

**21 Analysis of changes in net funds**

|                                            | 1 September<br>2019<br>£ | Cash flows<br>£ | 31 August<br>2020<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Cash                                       | 3,517,702                | 826,287         | 4,343,989              |
| Loans falling due within one year          | (7,490)                  | (7,491)         | (14,981)               |
| Loans falling due after more than one year | (67,414)                 | 22,472          | (44,942)               |
|                                            | <b>3,442,798</b>         | <b>841,268</b>  | <b>4,284,066</b>       |

**22 Commitments under operating leases**

At 31 August 2020 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

|                                   | 2020<br>£         | 2019<br>£         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Amounts due within one year       | 2,380,739         | 2,307,669         |
| Amounts due in two and five years | 13,052,320        | 12,800,037        |
| Amounts due after five years      | 33,081,576        | 37,122,602        |
|                                   | <b>48,514,635</b> | <b>52,230,308</b> |

Included in the leasing commitments is the PFI unitary charge for the remaining period of the contract,

# WADE DEACON TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

#### 23 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the AFH, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

##### Expenditure related party transactions

Mr C McLeod is a trustee of the trust and in a previous period a close family member was employed as a teacher at one of the Trust's schools. During the year to 31 August 2020 this employee remains in post. The appointment was made in open competition and Mr McLeod was not involved in the decision-making process regarding their appointment. The close family member is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and receives no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a trustee. This appointment was made prior to the 1 April 2019 deadline noted above and therefore not reported to the ESFA.

Wade Deacon High School have used Riverside College to provide alternative provision support to the School for a number of years. On 1 September 2019 Ms ME Murphy was appointed as a Trustee. Ms Murphy is the Principal of Riverside College. During the year to 31 August 2020 the School incurred charges of £5k (2019: £9k). There were no amounts outstanding at 31 August 2020. The agreement for the provision of these services was made prior to the appointment of Ms Murphy as a Trustee and prior to the 1 April 2019 deadline noted above and therefore not reported to the ESFA.

#### 24 Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a member.

#### 25 Teaching School trading account

|                                                   | 2020      | 2019      |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                                   | £         | £         |
| <b>Direct income</b>                              |           |           |
| Other direct income                               | 295,252   | 277,826   |
| <b>Direct costs</b>                               |           |           |
| Direct staff costs                                | 139,052   | 135,661   |
| <b>Other costs</b>                                |           |           |
| Other support costs                               | 102,893   | 142,485   |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                          | (241,945) | (278,146) |
| <b>Surplus/(deficit) from all sources</b>         | 53,307    | (320)     |
| Teaching School balances at 1 September 2019      | 9,671     | 9,991     |
| <b>Teaching School balances at 31 August 2020</b> | 62,978    | 9,671     |